



BATTLE CRY

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FEBRUARY 2000

Pearl Harbor Gives a Helping Hand

By JO3 Lisa M. Tildsley & Cpl. David L. Crockett

USS PEARL HARBOR—After a month of deployment, the anchor dropped one and a half miles off the coast of Dili, the capital of East Timor on February 25. The BONHOMME RICHARD Amphibious Ready Group's first mission of WestPac 2000 was to deliver relief and recovery supplies to the East Timorians in the wake of political upheaval over their vote for independence last September.

In preparation for East Timor's vote on independence from Indonesia, citizens were systematically ousted from their country to West Timor in hopes of swaying the vote, thus keeping the

country part of Indonesia, according to Lieutenant David G. Zook, COMPHIBRON THREE's Assistant Operations Officer. Despite brutal tactics by Indonesia such as relocating entire families and torching buildings with gasoline from fire hoses, the September 19th vote went in favor of independence, but at the tragic price of extensive property damage and widespread poverty, from which residents are still recovering.

Information Technician 3rd Class Michelle Carr, Seaman Mike Faddis, Fireman Tanya Garcia, and Fireman

Dayan Ade were among those who were able to go ahead to help in the reconstruction, they were lifted to the island by elements of HMM 166 who crossdecked from USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHA 6) to USS DENVER (LHD 9). "We worked under tight restrictions helping separate relief items that were donated and later distributing them," said IT3 Carr. "We prepared days prior for the operation by having shots and talking pills to minimize the chances of contracting Malaria, and on that day we had to wear bug repellent cream and a bullet proof vest."

continued on page 2

Reenlistments Hit Close to Home

By QMC(SW/CC) Michael D. Hennessey

PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII—Reenlistment hit close to home for five Sailors of the USS PEARL HARBOR (LSD 52) and one from the ACU-5 Detachment as they reenlisted in the Arizona Memorial. With their own ship docked only yards away, the memorial gave the Sailors a perfect setting for their ceremony during the new LSD's maiden voyage.

Several members of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association attended the ceremony, conducted on Monday, 31 January. Following a short launch ride to the memorial, the six Sailors and their respective Officers gathered in the Memorial's chapel. CDR Gordon B. Rutherford, PEARL HARBOR's Commanding Officer, led the saying of the oath. The enlistees were: SMC(SW) Rodney Earl Geibe of Kingwood, Texas; IC1(SW/AW)

Ronald Dean Lyles, Spartanburg, S. Carolina; MS1(SW) Billy Antonio Pabon, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico; EN2(SW) Sean Thomas Dejongh, Hartford, Connecticut; EN2 Michael David Enriquez, Vernon, Louisiana, and GSM1 Troy Alden Frasca (ACU-5), Billings, Montana.

Two of the Survivors, Ray Emory (USS HONOLULU) and Richard Fiske (USS WEST VIRGINIA) made special contributions during and after the ceremony. Mr. Fiske, a former Marine bugler, said a short prayer near the end of the ceremony, and concluded it by sounding TAPS in memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. He presented the crew with a piece of Arizona's superstructure,

collected 58 years ago after the attack.

"I've been carrying this piece of metal around all these years because it meant so much to me," said Mr. Fiske. "Two of my best buddies are still entombed in the Arizona, and now I know what to do with it." Mr. Emory also made a presentation to the crew of a flag that was flown over the Memorial on its 50th anniversary. PEARL HARBOR is unique in that it is a museum in itself, as well as being a commissioned warship. These artifacts will be proudly displayed amongst other donated memorabilia.

The Survivors' involvement and contributions made it a unique and emotional ceremony, one that will forever remain a highlight of the participants' Naval careers.

Sailors/Marines Rock On!

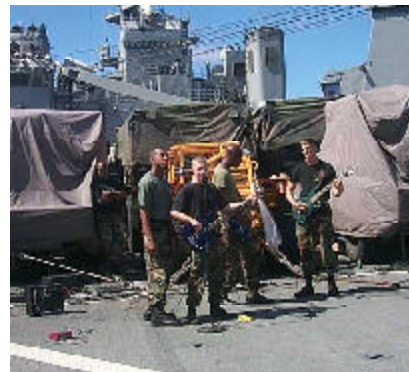
By Cpl. David L. Crockett

USS PEARL HARBOR—The steel beach party on Sunday, February 13, was turned into a Lalla-Pearl-Loosa concert as shipmates were entertained to the cool sounds of a new yet-to-be-named band here aboard. The group of four Marines and two Sailors performed an impressive set of songs from a wide range of styles with only four days practice in the Vehicle Turning Area.

Barely knowing each other's names does not hinder their enthusiasm for future performances. "We plan to do a

lot more," said LCpl Brian V. Althimer a Motor Transport Driver, MSSG-15, who does vocals/guitar for the group. "Expect to hear a lot more from us!"

The members of the band are DCCS Steve S. Buscemi, PHR, drums; Cpl Aaron R Cottman, Sierra 5/11, bass/vocals; LCpl Douglas E Shankle, Sierra 5/11, guitar/vocals; LCpl Brian V. Althimer, MSSG-15, vocals/guitar; HM "Doc" Justin D. Simmons, Sierra 5/11, bass guitar; and PFC Travis K. Jenkins, Sierra 5/11, lead guitar.



Feedback gets loud on the flight deck during a steel beach picnic.
Photo by JO3 Lisa Tildsley

Sailors/Marines Get Good VERTREP-utation !

By Cpl. David L. Crockett

USS PEARL HARBOR—Sailors and Marines worked side by side throughout most of the day, Tuesday the 15th, proving that those who live together can VERTREP together. The Vertical Replenishment of food and other supplies proved a success as everyone pulled together to unload supplies delivered by CH-43s of the Knight Riders Squadron, 15 MEU, from aboard the USNS San Jose.

Here's a list of some of the items unloaded:

TOTAL HELO LOADS	26
TOTAL PALLETS	42
PALLETS FROZEN FOODS	12
PALLETS CHILLED FOODS	3
PALLETS DRY FOODS	12
PALLETS GENERAL	9



Sailors and Marines come together to onload supplies.

A Sunday Afternoon

By JO3 Lisa M. Tildsley

USS PEARL HARBOR—The ship's Sunday, February 13 holiday routine turned competitive when the morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) committee held a Spades Tournament on the mess decks for Sailors and Marines. The seven-hour tournament began at 1300 with a total of 28 teams.

It is important that all participants have a partner of their choice, according to ship's MWR vice president, EM2 Kevin O' Mally. "It is best to play with a regular partner in tournaments because their strategies are familiar." EM2 O' Mally said. "You know how they play by reading their facial expressions and hand gestures."

Each team played two games with their opponents. The winners were determined by double elimination until it came down to the last two teams battling it out to take home and split the \$50 game prize.

For the winners, Seaman Melissa Jones and partner Ship Serviceman Seamen Recruit Quintin Burnett, "It was truly a whole lot of luck in our favor today that got us to the end," SN Jones said. This was their first time playing together and it was all ultimately just for a little bit of fun on a Sunday afternoon.

Helping Hand *Cont. page 1*

During the two-day operation, Sailors and Marines participated jointly in Operation Project HandClasp. They supported and worked with United States Group East Timor (USGET) and donated many supplies to the Salesian Sisters Order, one of the many Catholic organizations operating in the region. According to LT. Zook there was a total of 25 pallettes, which amounted to 1,200 lbs. of supplies donated using Community Relations Funds (COMREL), such as toys, clothes, medical supplies, books, food and bicycles.

According to FN Ade, those who helped out received a great deal in return. "Seeing the smile we put on these children's faces was a feeling of joy," FN Ade said. "I loved it and would do it again."

BATTLE CRY

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The Battle Cry is USS PEARL HARBOR's monthly Newsletter. The editorial content is prepared, edited and provided by the of official positions of the Department of Defense, the Department of the Navy or USS PEARL HARBOR.

Pollywogs Pay the Price

By JO3 Lisa M. Tildsley

USS PEARL HARBOR—Pollywogs ran wild through the ship, the day prior to crossing the equator on Saturday, February 19, 2000. The Wogs onboard rebelliously played practical jokes and pranks on the Shellbacks, which led them to special treatment on Initiation Day. Some Shellbacks discovered their coffee cups missing, while others found new insignia sewn on their coveralls. Even MAC's famous guard dog Scooby Doo was kidnapped and held for ransom by some slimy Wogs.

On the day before Shellback Initiation, a talent show was held on the Flight Deck for all Pollywogs to show off their Wog pride. Ship's company came out to watch those who dared to sing, dance, act, and impersonate Crusty Shellbacks. Songs like "Wogs Just Wanna Have Fun" and "I'm Glad to be A Polly Wog" were just a few songs sung by some of the bravest wogs. The fun continued through the evening with Wogs parading around till midnight toilet papering spaces, making prank phone calls, confiscating Shellback items, and making IMC announcements that Wogs Rule!

The Initiation Ceremony, a Naval Tradition when crossing the equator, began with the arrival of King Neptune and his Royal Party.



Pollywogs bow down before King Neptune and his Royal Party.
Photo by Shellback EN1 Van.

Neptunus Rex, the mythological God of the Seas, was assisted by his Royal Court, Sons and Daughters of Neptune, who saw to it that all Pollywogs aboard were initiated into the Solemn and Ancient Order of the Deep.

Pollywogs got a personal wake up call that morning at 0415, much earlier than normal. Within fifteen minutes all Wogs had to be dressed in the uniform of the day, dungarees inside out and backwards with a white T-shirt on the outside, then waddled like ducks to breakfast. At breakfast

Shellbacks made the Wogs sing children songs and eat green eggs and blue oatmeal. Then in groups of ten or more, the Pollywogs were escorted by the Sons and Daughters of Neptune to the 06 level, Foc'sle, Boat Deck, and Flight Deck where they were given "Incentive Training" and forced to get wet, sing, and say outrageous things. If you were lucky you made it through the course in just thirty minutes time. But, if you were 'A Special Case', you were sent back to the beginning several times for special treatment.

When finally reaching the end, every Pollywog met the man of the hour, Neptunus Rex, and he asked just one question that would determine the Wog's fate. Answered correctly, the wogs were sent to a dunking tank where the last of their slime was rinsed away and they were pronounced worthy to be Shellbacks!

Following the ceremony swim call was held in the well deck and a steel beach picnic was held on the flight deck for the crew to enjoy.



Pollywogs get soaking wet as they practice Damage Control on the Foc'sle.
Photo by Shellback EN1 Van.



Reenlistments

GSM1 Trot Frasca
 EN2(SW) Sean Dejongh
 EN2 Michael Enriquez
 IC1(SW/AW) Ronald Lyles
 MS1(SW) Billy Pabon
 SMC(SW) Rodney Geibe
 EN2 Barbara Turknett
 GSEC Troy Doss

Enlisted Surface Warfare

SK1(SW) Thomas Smith
 FC2(SW) Thormond Forseth
 EN3(SW) Gabriella Rice



Birthdays

01 Feb EMFA Leung
 02 Feb SN Wright
 02 Feb OSSA Christopher Oliverson
 03 Feb MM2 Robert Holmes
 03 Feb PC3 Cameron Williams
 05 Feb FC2(SW) Thormond Forseth
 11 Feb SN Melissa Jones
 12 Feb EM3(SW) Dkendrick Roebuck
 13 Feb ET3 Claude Howard
 14 Feb SR Candace Click
 16 Feb OS2 Luz Council
 17 Feb SN Dana Flores
 17 Feb EN3 Stephen Edwards
 17 Feb LTJG Debbie Garcia
 21 Feb BM1(SW) Kriss Zeller
 22 Feb QM1 Shane Franklin
 22 Feb FC3 Nathan Boward
 24 Feb PC2 Robert Jones
 26 Feb QMC(SW/CC) Michael Hennessey
 26 Feb DCFA Lance Day
 27 Feb EN3 Gail Reed
 28 Feb EN2(SW) Christopher Harris

WELCOME ABOARD

JANUARY/ FEBRUARY

OSSR Stacy Hembroff

Reporting From: FCTCLANT
 Damneck, VA
 Hometown: Kenai, AK

OSSR Erin Snider

Reporting From: FCTCLANT
 Damneck, VA
 Hometown: Coarsegord, CA

OSSN Tanya Garnenez

Reporting From: FCTCLANT
 Damneck, VA
 Hometown: Vanderwagen, NM

OS3 Howard Hunter

Reporting From: USS PELELIU
 (LHA 5)
 Hometown: Duncanville, TX

SR Paula Endfield

Reporting From: NTC Great
 Lakes, IL
 Hometown: Whiteriver, AZ

SR Seng Sean

Reporting From: NTC Great
 Lakes, IL
 Hometown: Sacramento, CA

SR Candace Click

Reporting From: NTC Great
 Lakes, IL
 Hometown: Alvin, TX

OSSN Florena Gutierrez

Reporting From: FCTCLANT
 Damneck, VA
 Hometown: Carson, CA

MS1 Aster Velasquez

Reporting From: NAS North
 Island, CA
 Hometown: Far Rockaway
 Queens, NY

SR Teresa Blood

Reporting From: NTC Great
 Lakes, IL
 Hometown: Stuttgart, AR

OSSN Matthew Williams

Reporting From: FCTCLANT
 Damneck, VA
 Hometown: Anderson, CA

PNC Larry O' Conner

Reporting From:
 NAVCRUITRUSTA, Honolulu, HI
 Hometown: Augusta, GA

SN Katrice Hill

Reporting From: NTC Great Lakes,
 IL
 Hometown: Paramount, CA

IT2 Larry Lynch

Reporting From: NAVCRUITDIST,
 Kansas City, MO
 Hometown: Woodbridge Prince Wil,
 VA

ENS Aarthun

Reporting From: SWOSCOLCOM,
 Newport, RI
 Hometown: Vienna, VA

DCFA Jedidiah Risse

Reporting From: NTC Great Lakes,
 IL
 Hometown: Riolinda, CA

DCFR Enrique Pena

Reporting From: NTC Great Lakes,
 IL
 Hometown: San Bernardino, CA

DCFR Lance Day

Reporting From: NTC Great Lakes,
 IL
 Hometown: Sand Springs, OK

SN Vanessa Rivers

Reporting From: TPU
 Pearl Habor, HI
 Hometown: Queens, NY

OSSN Dennis Carter

Reporting From: FCTCLANT
 Damneck, VA
 Hometown: Long Beach, CA